Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 SAM-01 DRC-01 /130 W

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R 270947Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2908

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMAASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMABASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL TEL AVIV 3529

LONDON FOR GLEYSTEEN

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, EG

SUBJECT: VISIT OF AMERICAN ZIONIST TO EGYPT

- 1. AS INTERESTING SIDELIGHT TO EGYPT'S EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ITS IMMAGE IN US, WE WERE RECENTLY GIVEN FOLLOWING ACCOUNT BY LEADING AMERICAN ZIONIST, JESSIE LURIE, OF HIS EFFORTS TO OBTAIN EGYPTINA VISA. LURIE IS EDITOR OF WORLD'S LEADING ZIONIST PUBLICATION, HADASSAH MAGAZINE, AND BROTHER OF RECENTLY DECEASED EDITOR OF JERUSALEM POST.
- $2. \ \mbox{LURIE}$ TOLD US THAT HE WILL BE VISITING EGYPT VERY SHORTLY,

ARRIVING

THERE VIA CYPRUS. LURIE SAID THAT HE HAD VISITED EGYPT MANY YEARS AGO AND HAD WORKED THROUGH STATE DEPARTMENT IN ORDER TO OBTAIN VISA. THIS TIME, HOWEVER, LURIE WANTED TO "TEST THE WATERS" ANDWROTE A LETTER DIRECTLY TO EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR CONFIDENTIAL

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GHORBAL IN WASHINGTON REQUESTING HIS ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING

EGYPTIAN VISA. GHORBAL REPLIED PROMPTLY IN VERY FRIENDLY MANNER, ASSURING LURIE HE WOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING VISA ANDSINCERELY HOPING THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO VISIT CAIRO IN NEAR FUTURE.

- 3. LURIE THEN VISITITED EGYPTAIN CONSULATE IN NEW YORK AND WAS QUITE SURPRISED WHEN EGYPTIAN DIPLOMAT THERE MOVED RAPIDLY TO GET NECESSARY INFORMATION FOR VISA. WHEN LURIE PRODUCED LETTER FROM GHORBAL, EGYPTIAN CONSUL OFFICIAL SAID THAT LETTER WAS NOT NECESSARY AND THAT EGYPTIANS WERE QUITE ANXIOUS TO ENCOURAGE PRESS TO VISIT THEIR COUNTRY. LURE THEN MENTIONED PUBLICATION HE WORKED FOR AND AGAIN HIS FEARS WERE DISMISSED AND HE WAS PROMPTLY ISSUED A VISA.
- 4. COMMENT. I HAD OCCASSION TO CALL ON FORMER PRIME MINISTER MEIR JUNE 25 AND, DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION, RELTAED ABOVE STORY TO HER. MRS MEIR EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THIS ACTION ON THE PART OF THE EGYPTIANS, IF TURE, WAS AN EXTREMELY ENCOURAGING SIGN.
- 5. FOR CAIRO AND DEPARTMENT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY FEEDBACK AVAILABLE RE LURIE VISIT TO EGYPT. KEATING

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE

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